



# **Status of Laser/Lidar Working Group Requirements**

by

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to

Working Group on Space-Based Lidar Winds  
June 27-30, 2006  
Welches, OR

# Atmospheric Dynamics (Winds)

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Authors also worked in Technology Challenge subgroups:

- Laser Transmitters
- Detection, Processing, Optics

# NASA Laser/Lidar Technology Requirements Working Group

- First WG meeting: Nov. 8-9, 2005
- Second WG meeting: Dec. 14-15, 2005
- Community Forum: Jan. 10, 2006
- Third WG meeting: Jan. 11, 2006
- Fourth WG meeting: Feb. 7-8, 2006
- Writing of final report ...
- June 9, 2006: draft copy of final report available at <http://esto.nasa.gov/lwg/lwg.htm>

# Space Wind Measurement Requirements - 1

|  | Demo     | Threshold | Objective |       |
|--|----------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Vertical depth of regard (DOR)   | 0-20     | 0-20      | 0-30      | km    |
| Vertical resolution:   |          |           |           |       |
| Tropopause to top of DOR   | Not Req. | Not Req.  | 2         | km    |
| Top of BL to tropopause (~12 km)   | 2        | 1         | 0.5       | km    |
| Surface to top of BL (~2 km)   | 1        | 0.5       | 0.25      | km    |
| Number of collocated LOS wind measurements for horiz <sup>A</sup> wind calculation | 2 = pair | 2 = pair  | 2 = pair  | -     |
| Horizontal resolution <sup>A</sup>   | 350      | 350       | 100       | km    |
| Number of horizontal <sup>A</sup> wind tracks <sup>B</sup>                         | 2        | 4         | 12        | -     |
| Velocity error <sup>C</sup>  |          |           |           |       |
| Above BL   | 3        | 3         | 2         | m/s   |
| In BL  | 2        | 2         | 1         | m/s   |
| Minimum wind measurement success rate  | 50       | 50        | 50        | %     |
| Temporal resolution (N/A for single S/C)   | N/A      | 12        | 6         | hours |
| Data product latency   | N/A      | 2.75      | 2.75      | hours |

A – Horizontal winds are not actually calculated; rather two LOS winds with appropriate angle spacing and collocation are measured for an “effective” horizontal wind measurement. The two LOS winds are reported to the user.

B – The cross-track measurements do not have to occur at the same along-track coordinate; staggering is OK.

C – Error = 1 $\sigma$  LOS wind random error, projected to a horizontal plane; from all lidar, geometry, pointing, atmosphere, signal processing, and sampling effects. The true wind is defined as the linear average, over a 100 x 100 km box (or 175 km or 25 km) box centered on the LOS wind location, of the true 3-D wind projected onto the lidar beam direction provided with the data.

(original errata that have been corrected) (Added/clarified requirements during NASA ESTO ESTIPS Laser/Lidar Working Group)

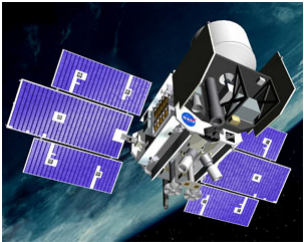
# Space Wind Measurement Requirements - 2

|  | Demo                  | Threshold             | Objective             |  |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Vertical location accuracy of LOS wind measurements  | 1                     | 0.1                   | 0.1                   | km                                       |
| Horizontal location accuracy of LOS wind measurements  | 5                     | 0.5                   | 0.5                   | km                                       |
| Allowed angular separation of LOS wind pair, projected to a horizontal plane   | 30-150                | 30-150                | 30-150                | degree                                   |
| Maximum allowed horizontal separation of LOS wind pair   | 50                    | 35                    | 35                    | km                                       |
| Maximum horizontal extent of each horizontal <sup>A</sup> wind meas.   | 175                   | 100                   | 25                    | km                                       |
| Minimum horizontal cross-track width of regard of wind measurements  | N/A                   | ±400                  | ±625                  | km                                       |
| Maximum cross-track spacing of adjacent cross-track locations  | N/A                   | 350                   | 100                   | km                                       |
| Maximum design horizontal wind speed: Above BL<br>Within BL  | 50<br>50              | 75<br>50              | 100<br>50             | m/s<br>m/s                               |
| Design 1σ wind turbulence level: Above BL<br>Within BL   | 1<br>1                | 1.2<br>1              | 1.4<br>1              | m/s                                      |
| Max. LOS wind unknown bias error, proj. to a horiz. plane  | 1                     | 0.1                   | 0.05                  | m/s                                      |
| Minimum design a priori velocity knowledge window, projected to a horizontal plane (using nearby wind measurements and contextual information) | 26.6                  | 26.6                  | 26.6                  | m/s                                      |
| Design cloud field:<br>Layer from 9-10 km, extinction coefficient<br>Layer from 2-3 km, 50% of lidar shots untouched,<br>50% blocked           | 0.14<br>50, random    | 0.14<br>50, random    | 0.14<br>50, random    | km <sup>-1</sup><br>%                    |
| Aerosol backscatter coeff.: 2 vertical profiles provided   | Provided              | Provided              | Provided              | m <sup>-1</sup> sr <sup>-1</sup>         |
| Aerosol backscatter: Probability density function (PDF)<br>PDF width   | Lognormal<br>Provided | Lognormal<br>Provided | Lognormal<br>Provided | m sr<br>m <sup>-1</sup> sr <sup>-1</sup> |
| Atmospheric extinction coefficient: 2 vertical profiles provided   | Provided              | Provided              | Provided              | km <sup>-1</sup>                         |
| Orbit latitude coverage  | N/A                   | 80N to 80S            | 80N to 80S            | Degree                                   |
| Downlinked data  | All                   | All                   | TBD                   | -  |
| (original errata that have been corrected) (Added/clarified requirements during NASA ESTO ESTIPS Laser/Lidar Working Group)                    |                       |                       |                       |  |

# Atmospheric Winds

## Recommended Roadmap

Past



1 Micron Altimetry

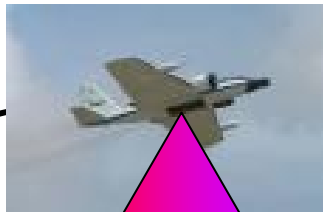


2 Micron Winds



0.355 & 2 Micron Winds

1



0.355 & 2 Micron  
Winds  
Space-like Geometry  
& Scanning

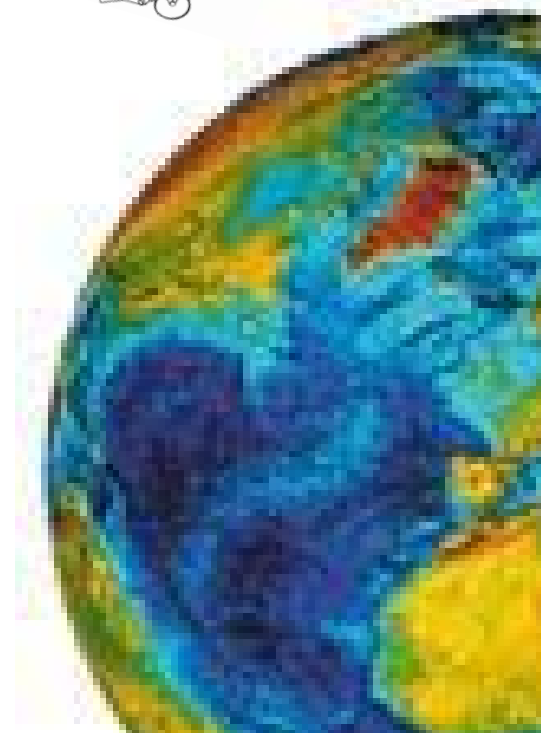
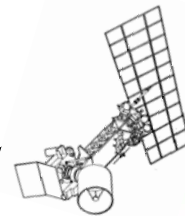
2



0.355 & 2  
Micron Winds  
NPOESS  
833 km  
Demo

3

0.355 & 2  
Micron Winds  
NASA  
400 km  
Threshold, 3 yr.



A photograph of Earth from space, showing the curvature of the planet and a bright light source (the sun) creating a lens flare effect across the sky.

# NASA ESTO Laser/Lidar Working Group Report

Azita Valinia, Ph.D.  
Working Group Chair

**June 15, 2006**

# Acknowledgements

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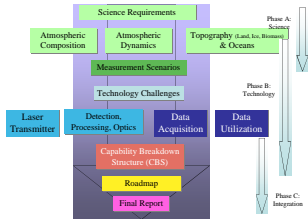
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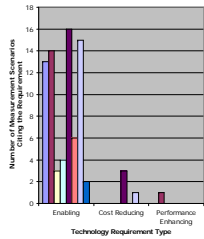


# Outline



- Definition Process

- Investment Priority Analysis

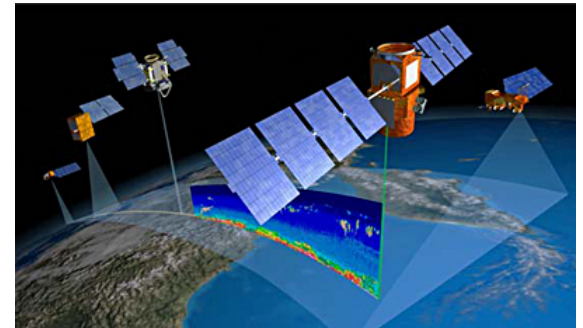


- Technology Roadmap

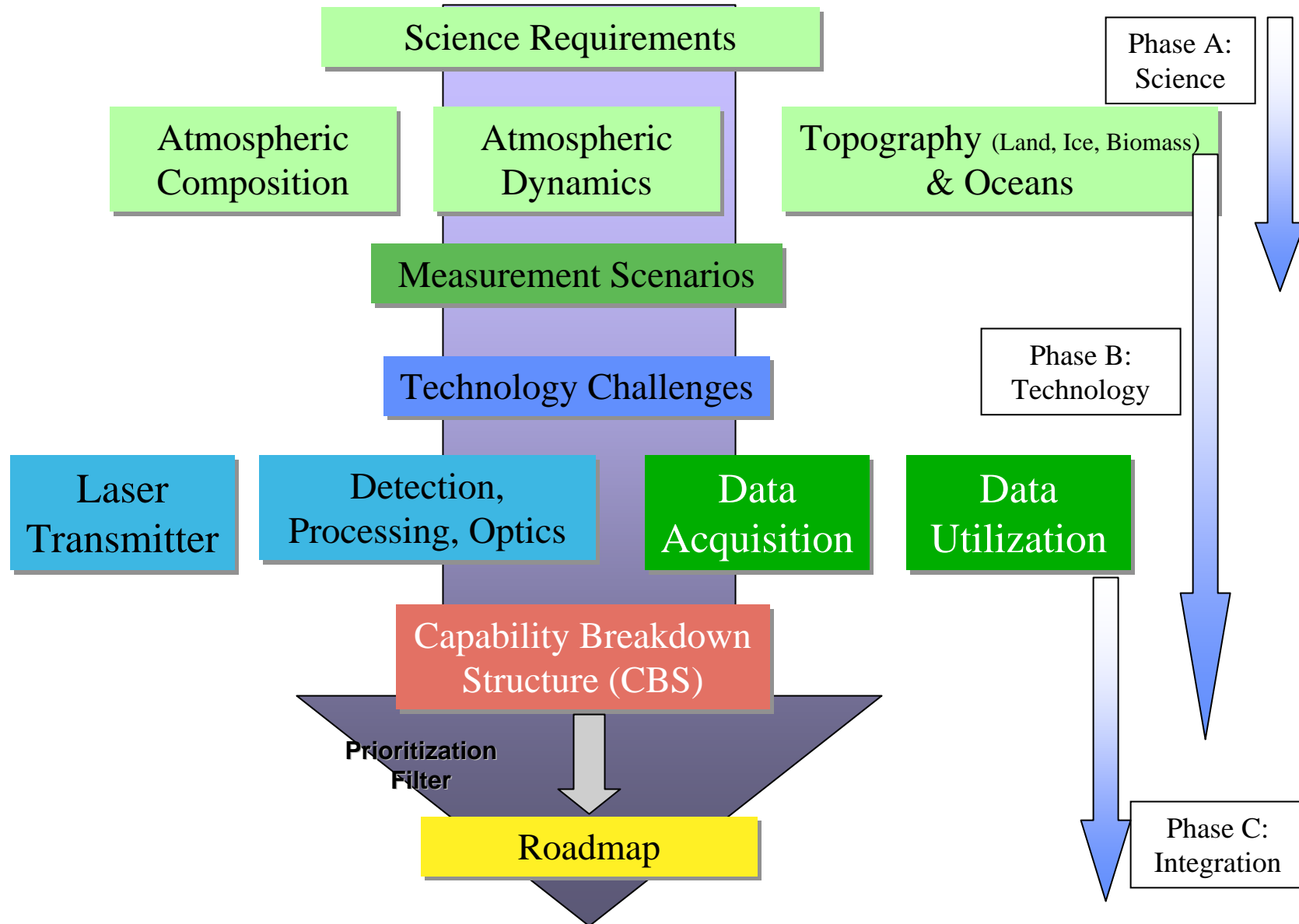


# Working Group Charter

Develop a strategy for targeted technology development and risk mitigation efforts at NASA by leveraging technological advancement made by other government agencies, industry and academia, and move NASA into the next logical era of laser remote sensing by enabling critical Earth Science measurements from space.



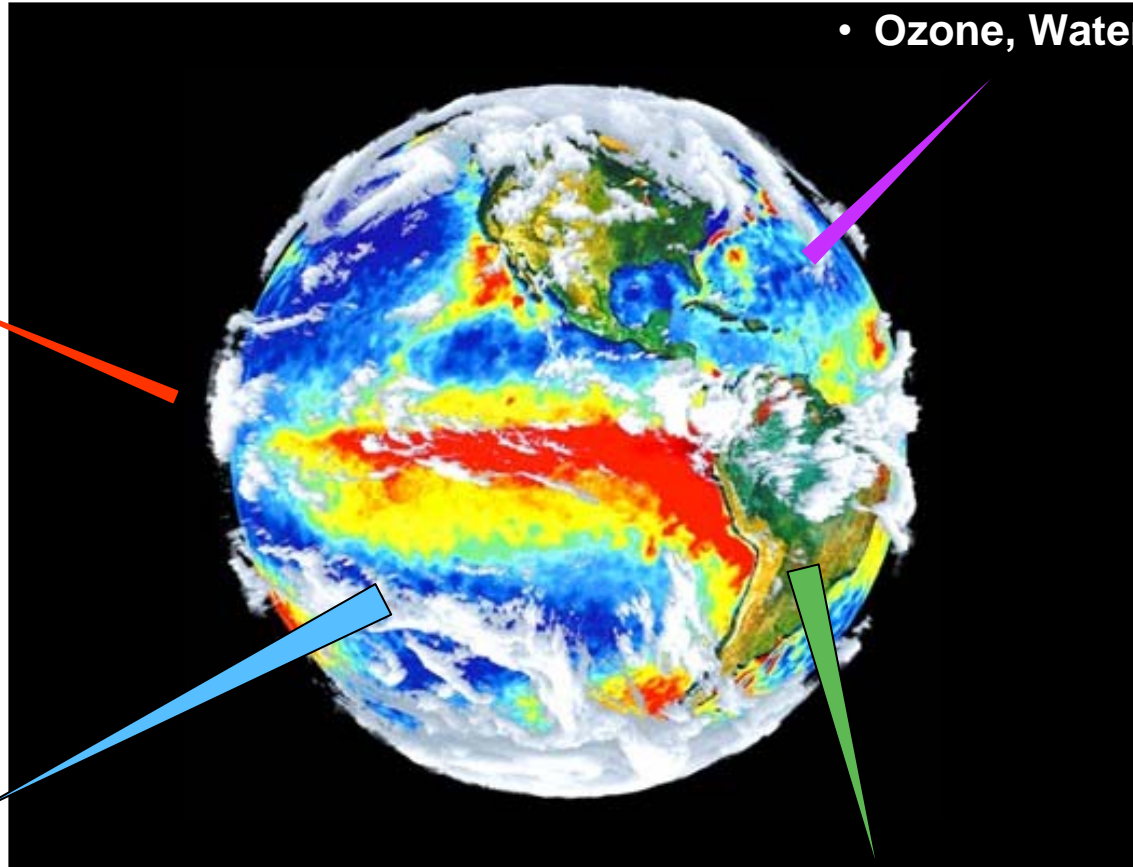
# Requirement Definition Process



# Laser Remote Sensing Techniques & Applications

## Differential Absorption Lidar (DIAL)

- Carbon Dioxide
- Ozone, Water Vapor



## Doppler Lidar

- Wind Field

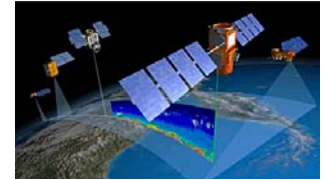
## Backscatter Lidar

- Clouds
- Aerosols
- Phytoplankton Physiology
- Ocean Carbon/Particle Abundance

## High-Precision Ranging & Altimetry

- Geodetic Imaging
- Vegetation Structure/Biomass
- Earth Gravity Field

# Measurements Primarily Achieved by Laser Remote Sensing



## Weather

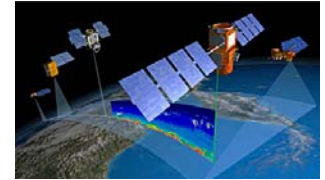


**Tropospheric Winds** - Doppler Lidar recognized as the *only* means for acquiring wind profiles with required precision (1 m/s, 100-km horizontal resolution).

**Water Vapor Profile** - DIAL recognized as the *only* technique for global moisture profile at high resolution (0.5 km vertical by 50 km horizontal) in the boundary layer, essential for understanding severe storm development

# Measurements Primarily Achieved by Laser Remote Sensing

## Atmospheric Composition

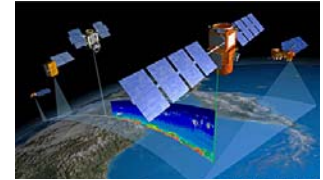


**Tropospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Profile** - DIAL is the only technique for high precision profiling of CO<sub>2</sub> (0.3% mixing ratio, 2-km vertical scale), essential for understanding the global carbon cycle and global warming trends

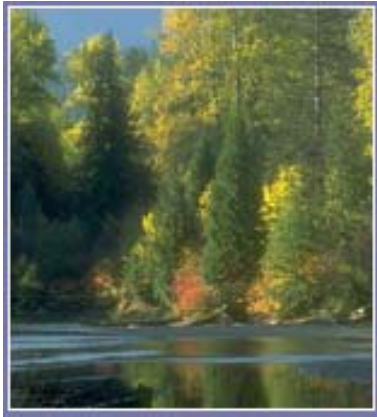
**High Resolution Clouds & Aerosol** - Backscatter lidar is the *only* technique for high vertical resolution (50m) measurements of optical properties of clouds and aerosols including planetary boundary height, cloud base, cloud top, cloud depolarization, and aerosol scattering profiles needed in climate modeling

**High Resolution Tropospheric Ozone Profile** - DIAL is the *only* technique for global tropospheric ozone profiling with high resolution (1-2 km vertical, 100 km horizontal), essential for understanding atmospheric processes in the troposphere

## Measurements Primarily Achieved by Laser Remote Sensing



### Carbon Cycle & Ecosystems

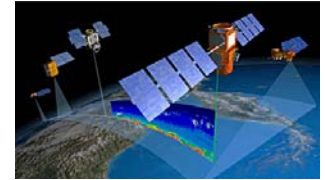


**3D Biomass-** Lidar Altimetry is the only technique for profiling 3D vegetation canopies to the required vertical accuracy of 0.5 m and horizontal resolution of 5-20m

#### **Phytoplankton Physiology & Ocean Carbon**

**Abundance -** Lidar is the *only* method for measuring particle profiles in the oceans' mixed layer of 5m resolution depth or better, necessary to understand how oceanic carbon storage and fluxes contribute to the global carbon cycle

# Measurements Primarily Achieved by Laser Remote Sensing



## Climate Variability and Change

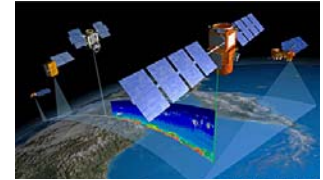


### High Resolution Ice Surface Topography - Lidar

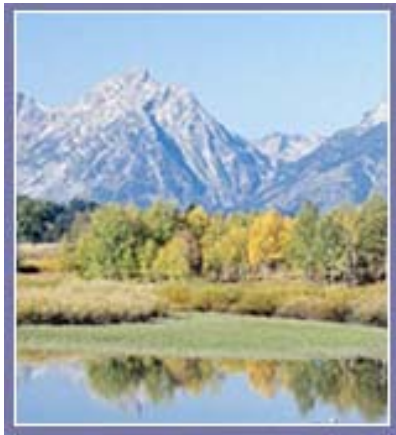
Altimetry is the only technique for profiling ice surface topography and changes of less than 1 cm/year, essential for understanding climate change



# Measurements Primarily Achieved by Laser Remote Sensing



## Earth Surface and Interior

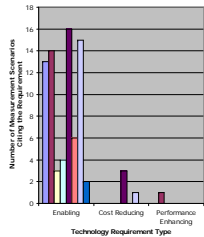


**Earth Gravity Field 3D** - Improved range measurements provided by laser interferometry will improve Earth gravity field observation to less than 100 km and 10-day resolution with an accuracy of less than 1cm equivalent surface water height

**Terrestrial Reference Frame** - Improved satellite laser ranging network will provide a factor of 5-10 improvement in reference frame and satellite precision orbit determination over current measurements

# Outline

- Definition Process



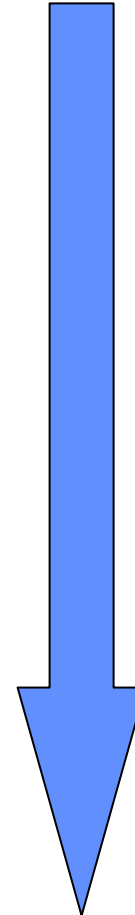
- Investment Priority Analysis

- Prioritization Criteria
- Analysis

- Technology Roadmap

# Technology Prioritization Criteria

1. Scientific Impact
2. Societal Benefit
3. Measurement Scenario Uniqueness
4. Technology Development Criticality
5. Technology Utility
6. Measurement Timeline
7. Risk Reduction



# Scientific Impact



The degree to which the proposed measurement via lidar technique will impact our understanding of the Earth System and will help answer the overarching questions defined in NASA Earth Science Research strategy.

**Tropospheric Winds** --> Severe Weather Prediction

**Tropospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Profile** --> Global Warming Trends and Air Quality

**High Resolution Polar Ice Topography Change** --> Climate Change Prediction

**3D Biomass** --> Carbon Cycle, Sources/Sink, Climate Change Prediction

**Phytoplankton Physiology** --> Oceanic Carbon Cycle

Impact  
Timeline



# Societal Benefit



The degree to which the proposed measurement has the *potential to improve life on Earth.*

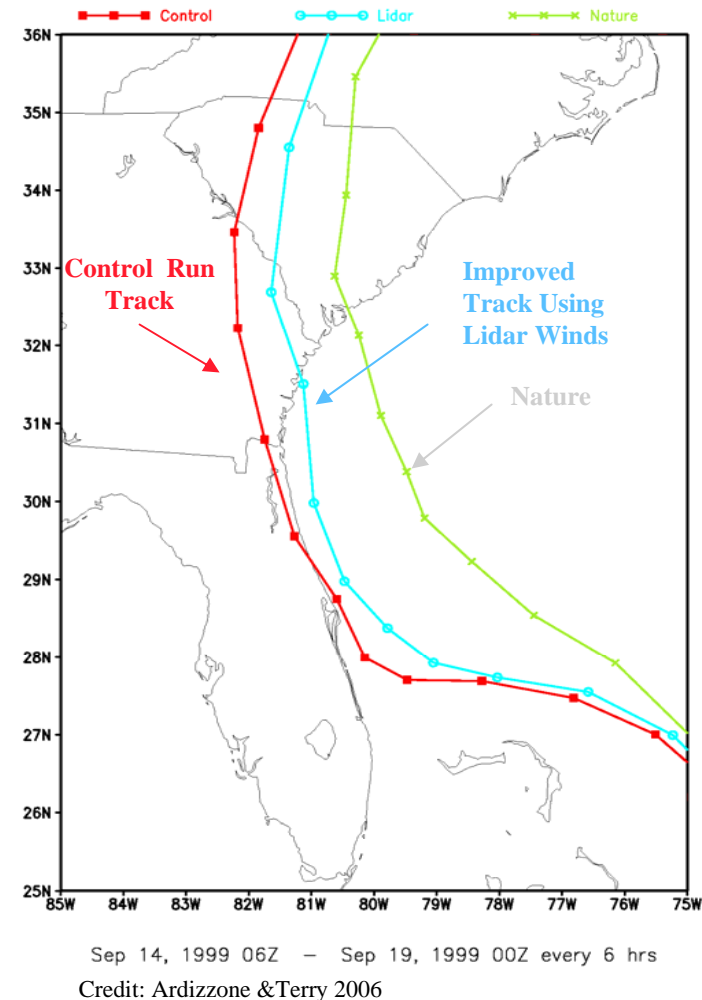
Near- Term  
Benefits



Long-  
Term  
Benefits

1. Severe Weather Prediction (Trop Wind)
2. Air Quality/Assessment of Global Warming ( $\text{CO}_2$ )
3. Long Term Climate Change (Ice mass, Biomass,  $\text{CO}_2$ )

## Prediction of Hurricane Tracks Using Trop Wind Data



# Measurement Scenario Uniqueness



Whether Lidar technique is the primary or unique technique for making the proposed measurement.

- **Tropospheric Winds**
- **CO<sub>2</sub> Vertical Profile**
- **Vegetation Biomass**
- **High Resolution Ice Surface Topography**
- **Phytoplankton Physiology & Functional Groups**
- High Spectral Resolution Aerosol
- Ocean Carbon/Particle Abundance
- Earth Gravity Field
- Terrestrial Reference Frame

Also  
appeared  
under  
previous  
criteria

# Technology Development Criticality



Whether the development of the proposed technology *enables new and critical measurement capabilities* as opposed to provide incremental improvement in the measurement.

## Technology Criticality Priority



Enabling

Cost Reducing

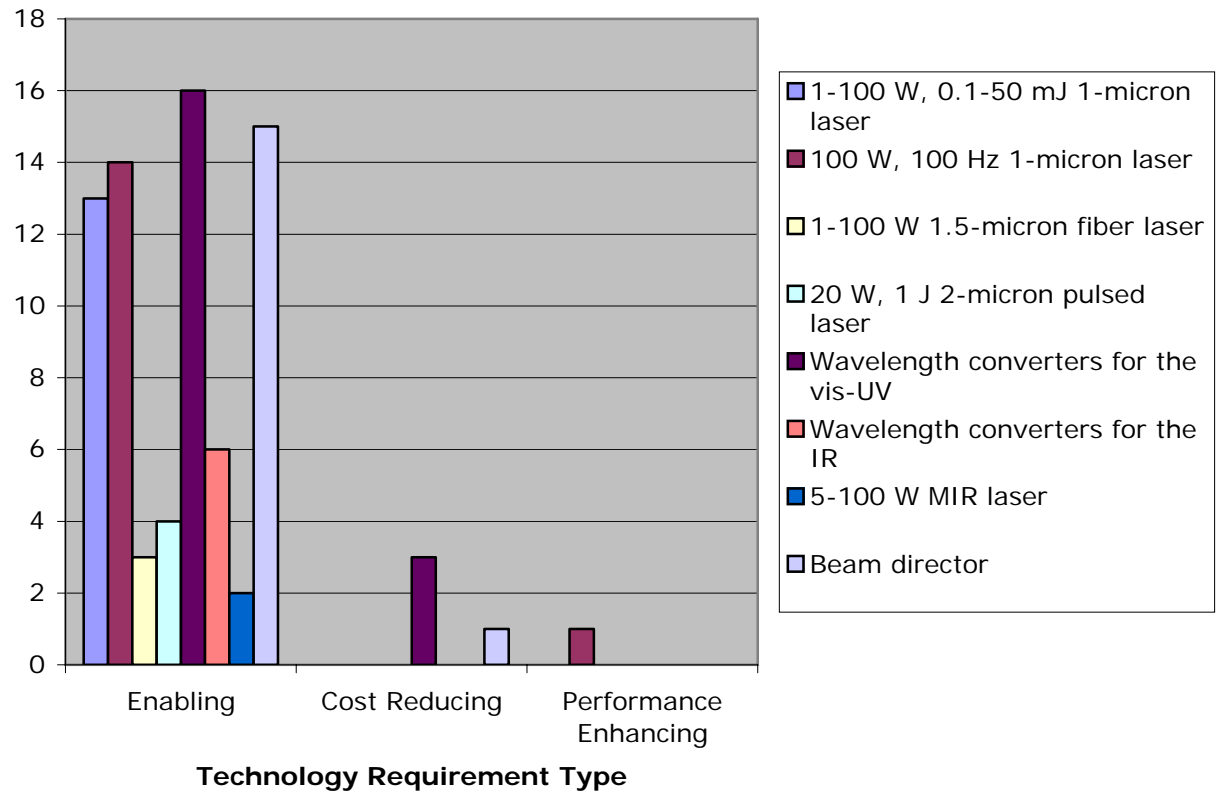
Performance Enhancing

# Technology Utility



The degree to which the technology makes significant contribution to more than one measurement application, i.e. is cross cutting in utility.

## Transmitter Technology Utility

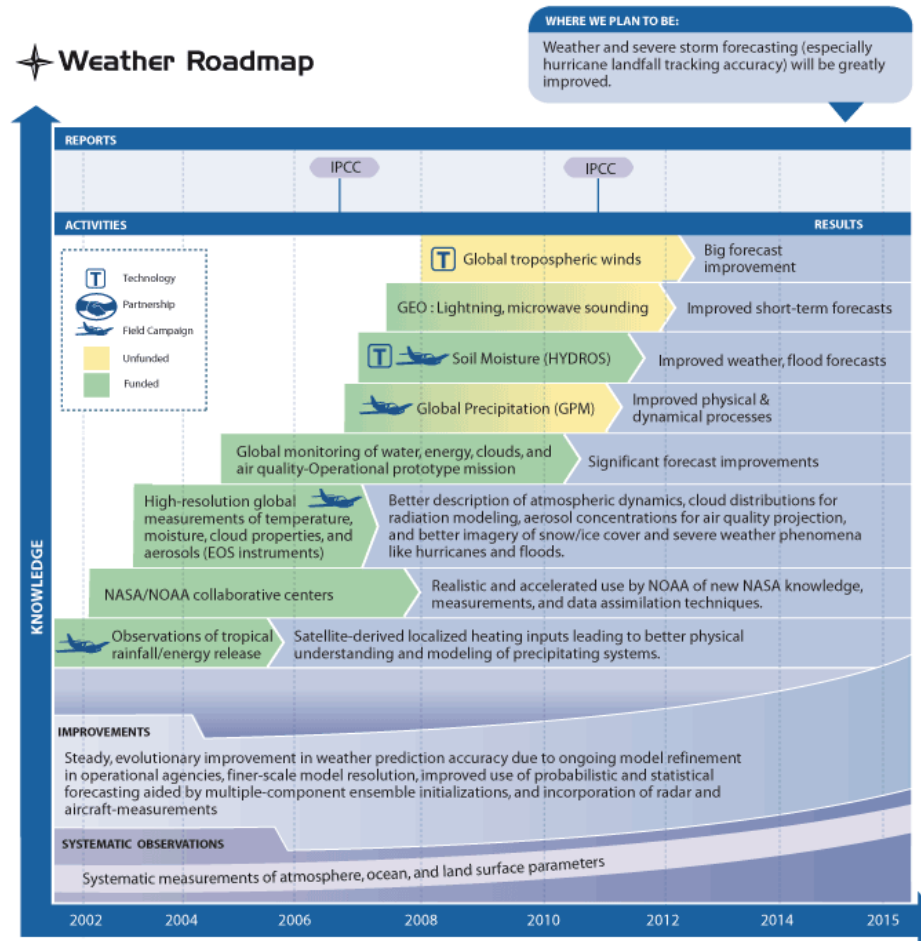




# Measurement Timeline



Determined by the time horizon when a particular measurement is needed, as articulated in NASA's Earth Science Research Strategy.



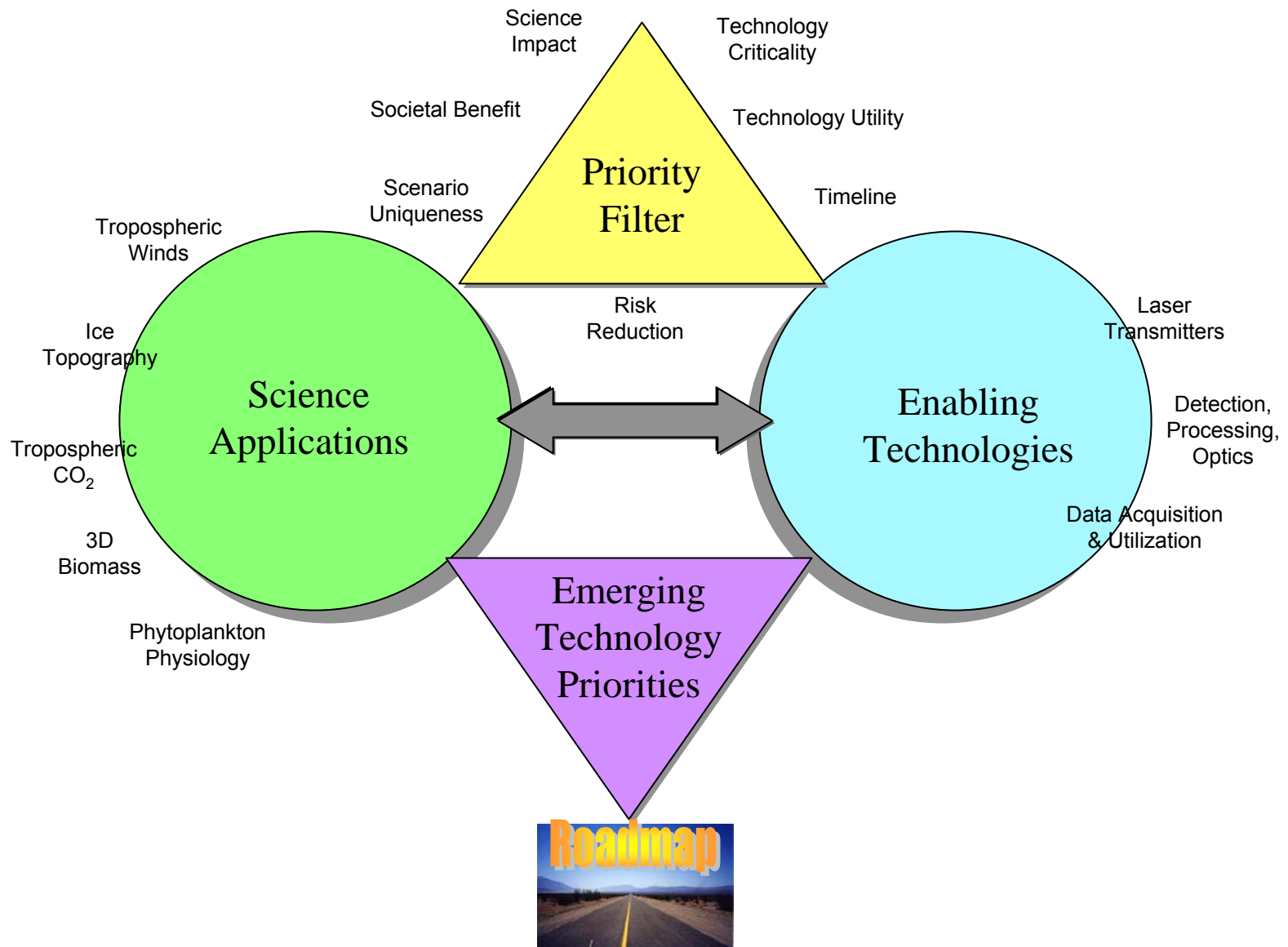
# Risk Reduction



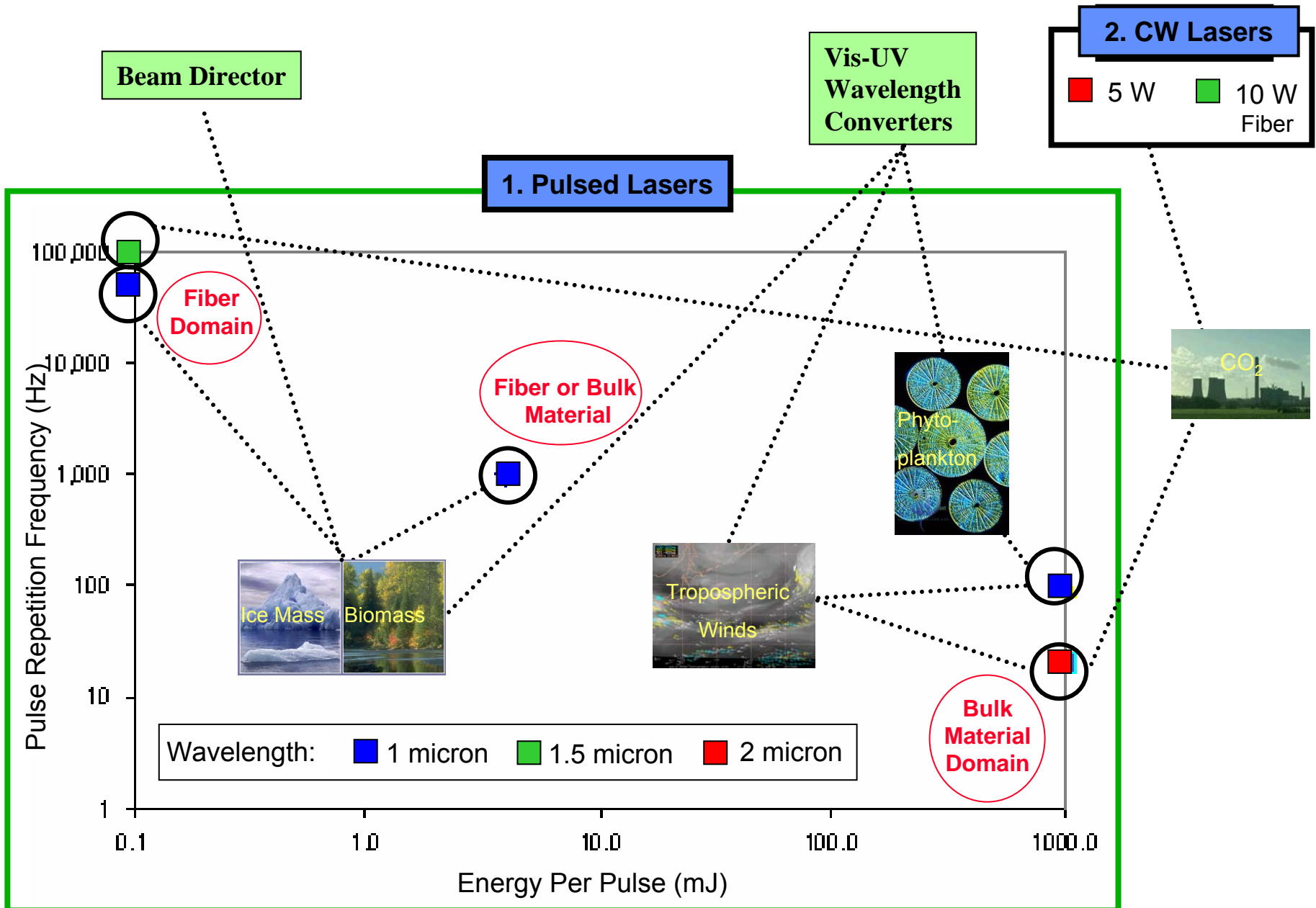
The degree to which the new technology mitigates the risk of mission failure.

- Laser Transmitters present the greatest development challenge and pose the greatest risk.
- Risk reduction laser transmitter technologies are of highest priority.

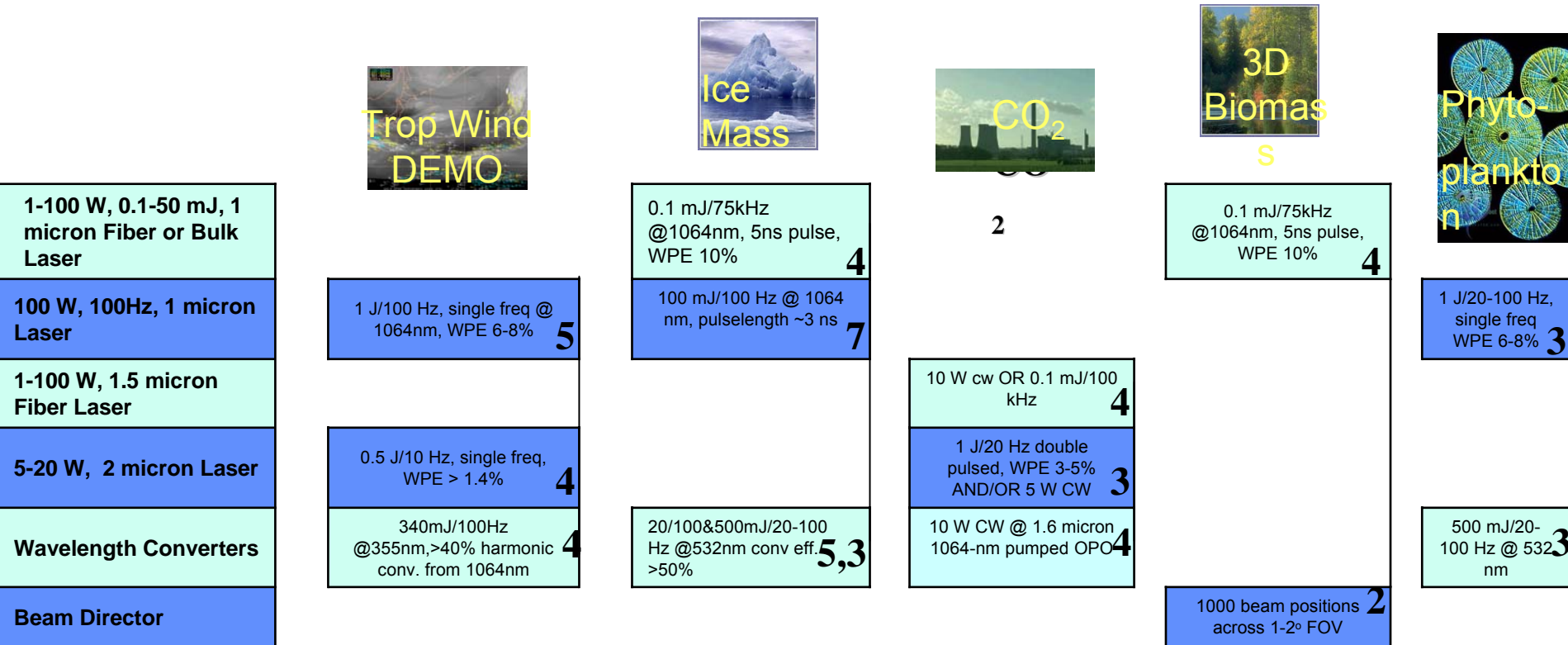
# Filtering Requirements Leads to Technology Priorities



# Required Laser Transmitter Capabilities

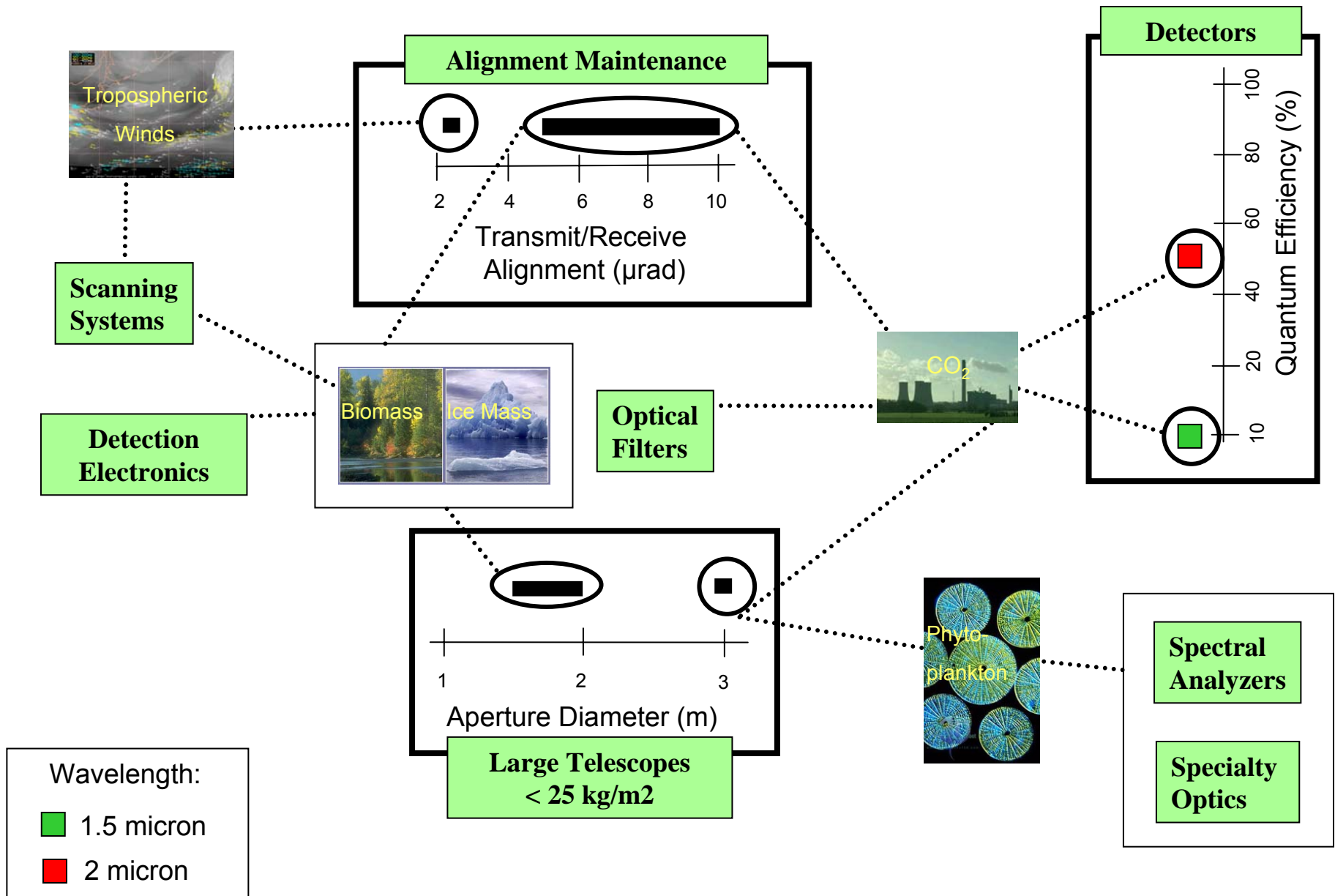


# Laser Transmitter Priorities



\* Current TRL designated in lower right corner.

# Required Lidar Receiver Capabilities



# Lidar Receiver Priorities



|                               |
|-------------------------------|
| Alignment Maintenance         |
| Scanning Systems              |
| Large Telescopes              |
| Detectors and Electronics     |
| Opt. Filters/Specialty Optics |

|  |
|--|
| 5 $\mu$ rad (coherent), 50 $\mu$ rad (direct)        |
| Conical or step-stare, full azimuth at 30-50°, nadir |

|   |
|---|
| 5-10 $\mu$ rad transmit/receive boresight |
|---|

|   |
|---|
| 3m, < 25 kg/m <sup>2</sup>                            |
| 1.5 & 2 micron detectors with high quantum efficiency |
| 200 pm, 60% transmission                              |

|   |
|---|
| Addressable FOV between 1-2°  |
| 1.5-2m dia, 4-20 $\mu$ rad, blur circle                               |
| 8 bit, 500 Msample/sec streaming digitizer w/integrated pulse finding |

|                             |
|-----------------------------|
| 3m, < 25 kg/m <sup>2</sup>  |
| 1-3nm notch filter/90%trans |

\* Current TRL designated in lower right corner.

# Data Acquisition and Utilization Priorities



2



|                            |
|----------------------------|
| Air/Ground Validation Sys. |
| Adaptive targeting         |
| Intelligent Sensor H&S     |
| On-board Sensor Control    |

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Cal/Val $\leq 1$ hr*      | 2 |
| OSSE $\geq 3$ instruments | 3 |

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Cal/val < Days | 4 |
|----------------|---|

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| RT Event detection (clouds) | 4 |
|-----------------------------|---|

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Plan & Execution: <3 hr               | 4 |
| Laser life diagnosis < days           | 4 |
| Control sys. error = $4\mu\text{rad}$ | 3 |

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Cal/Val: <1% Error          | 4 |
| Laser life prognosis < days | 2 |

\*Required for operational weather and air pollution measurement systems

\* Current TRL designated in lower right corner.



# Outline

- Definition Process
- Investment Priority Analysis
- Technology Roadmap





# NASA ESTO Laser/Lidar Technology Roadmap

LWG 2006

Near-Term

Mid-Term

Far-Term

## TRANSMITTER

1-100 W, 0.1-50 mJ, 1 micron Fiber or Bulk Laser

100 W, 100Hz, 1 micron Laser

1-100 W, 1.5 micron Fiber Laser

5-20 W, 2 micron Laser

Wavelength Converters

Beam Director

## RECEIVER

Alignment Maintenance

Scanning Systems

Large Telescopes

Detectors and Electronics

Opt. Filters/Specialty Optics

## DATA

Air/Ground Validation Sys.

Adaptive targeting

Intelligent Sensor H&S

On-board Sensor Control

### Trop Wind DEMO (possibly with HSRL)

1 J/100 Hz, single freq @ 1064nm, WPE 6-8%

0.5 J/10 Hz, single freq, WPE > 1.4%

340mJ/100Hz @355nm, >40% harmonic conv. from 1064nm

5  $\mu$ rad (coherent), 50  $\mu$ rad (direct)

C4  
C5  
D7  
D3

Cal//Val  $\leq$  1 hr\*

OSSE  $\geq$  3 instruments

\* Required for operational

weather and air pollution

### Ice Mass

0.1 mJ/75kHz @1064nm, 5ns pulse, WPE 10%

100 mJ/100 Hz @ 1064 nm, pulselength ~3 ns

20/100&500mJ/20-100 Hz @532nm conv eff. >50%

NOTE: Current TRL in lower right corner.

Winds: C=coherent, D=direct

Cal/val < Days

RT Event detection (clouds)

### CO<sub>2</sub>

10 W cw OR 0.1 mJ/100 kHz

1 J/20 Hz double pulsed, WPE 3-5% AND/OR 5 W CW

10 W CW @ 1.6 micron 1064-nm pumped OPO

5-10  $\mu$ rad transmit/receive boresight

3m, < 25 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

1.5 & 2 micron detectors with high quantum efficiency

200 pm, 60% transmission

Plan & Execution: <3 hr

Laser life diagnosis < days

Control sys. error = 4 $\mu$ rad

### 3D Biomass

0.1 mJ/75kHz @1064nm, 5ns pulse, WPE 10%

1000 beam positions across 1-2° FOV

Addressable FOV between 1-2°

1.5-2m dia, 4-20  $\mu$ rad blur circle

8 bit, 500 Msample/sec streaming digitizer w/integrated pulse finding

Cal/Val: <1% Error

Laser life prognosis < days

### Phytoplankton Physiology

1 J/20-100 Hz, single freq WPE 6-8%

500 mJ/20-100 Hz @ 532 nm

### Operation

3m, < 25 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

1-3nm notch filter/90%trans

# Overall Recommendation

- Highest priority measurement(s) must be identified at the Agency level first.
- Technology Requirements for each measurement in the area of transmitters, DPO, and DADU are tightly coupled.
- Technology development to satisfy the priority measurement(s) must then targeted and coordinated in the three categories in order to get maximum return on investment.





# Kavaya/Gentry Conclusions

- Fast-paced experience
- Impossible to AND {include everyone who has something to contribute, afford the effort, come to an agreement, finish}; therefore accept the imperfections of it all
- Draft report strongly endorses technology development for tropospheric wind mission
- Tall poles not explicitly captured: coherent winds = laser lifetime, alignment; direct winds = scanner, photon efficiency
- Still time to (quickly) give corrections to draft report
- Future NASA opportunities for funding might reflect the priorities of this report
- Many thanks to Ramesh Kakar for participating & advocating
- Many thanks to Winds WG members who contributed